TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office FLOOR DEBATE

April 14, 2004 LR 209, 400

position crystal-clear. I like to make where crystal-clear. So you cheesed up to and kowtowed to whomever you did, but you don't have to work with them session after session. You've been used and used up, but you still have to deal with me. And based on what I saw this afternoon, I don't think anybody who wants a position of leadership that requires a vote should talk to me about anything. There's nobody on this floor that I know of worthy of a vote for a leadership position other than those who voted the right way on LR 209CA, and the record will show me who they are. So if you voted yes, don't come to me for anything because you won't get a vote from me. If I had to vote for Senator Foley first, I'd vote for him because he voted no. That's where I am. I'd vote for him for Speaker before I'd vote for any of those who voted yes. You're not reliable, you got no principles, so why should I vote for you for Speaker? I just want you to know so you won't be up in my face talking to me about any of that. And the agreements and the bargains that I was willing to make with others around here, don't bring that to me anymore either. I'm the outsider. I'm the consummate outsider and I accept that role. Just leave me I'll leave you all alone. But I say again if you feel you just got to be around me and you've got to say something to me, I will be very courteous. I will be polite. I will be courtly and I will listen to you in the same way that that pillar will listen to you. It won't turn its back on you. It lets you say what you got to say, and no harm done. Now back to this thing that Senator Baker has brought before you all, I don't think he ought to pull it. After what I've seen around here, he'll get enough votes to pass this thing. Senator Baker, you threw in the towel too soon. You don't read your colleagues like I do. Senator Beutler had a little fun at your expense, which he was entitled to have, because this thing is everything he said it was plus worse, but you shouldn't have quit for that. A lot of you all worked on this. It took several people to come up with something as nonsensical and silly as this. One person doesn't have that much silliness in his or her brain. It took several people to come up with this. And they're going to argue a case and not even do it in a lawyerlike manner. And they're sending messages to the Public Service Commission. And if the Public Service Commission is listening, I hope commissioners know that they better obey the law as articulated